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Addendum

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1. All India Women's Education Fund Association*

(Special consultative status granted in 1999)

AIWEFA was established in 1929 to promote the cause of women's education in India. Since then it has expanded its activities for greater advocacy and to empower women through education and capacity building, information, income generation and legal awareness. As an organization committed to elevating women's status in Society, AIWEFA has formed a network of sister organizations to promote development goals nationwide. AIWEFA had a membership of 191 members comprising, 188 national and 3 international members in 1999. The additional members since 1999 include eighty-three (83) national members and seven (7) international members from New York, Geneva, Bangkok and Myanmar taking the total current membership to 281. AIWEFA's resources comprise membership fees and contributions. These are supplemented with resources raised from donors, largely in the corporate sector and some grants from the Government. Most of the funds from the donors are for specific projects. AIWEFA facilitates and monitors implementation of projects. AIWEFA utilized its entitlement to receive funds from a foreign donor, namely Ford Foundation, in foreign currency (US$) in 1999 by undertaking a two-year project.

Participation in ECOSOC subsidiary body conferences/other United Nations meetings

1999 Asia Pacific Regional NGO Symposium at Bangkok, September.

International Conference of CONGO "Role of NGOs in 21st Century", 9-15 October, Seoul, South Korea.

2000 United Nations 44th Session on CSW and Preparation for U.N.GASS (United Nations General Assembly Special Session), 28 February and 17 March, United Nations Headquarters, New York.

Half day Panel Discussion "From Words to Action" 17 March, United Nations Church Center, New York. President, AIWEFA was in the Chair. AIWEFA representative was included as a panelist.

Commonwealth Heads of States meeting, April, New Delhi. NGO deliberations with Women's Affairs Ministers' Meeting to evaluate commonwealth plan of action preceding the Beijing+5. UNGASS NGO deliberations and interventions on Poverty and Human Rights.

23rd Special Session of United Nations General Assembly – Beijing+5, "Women 2000: Gender, Equality, Development and Peace for 21st Century", 5-9 June, United Nations Headquarters, New York.

2001 Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, 30 July-17 August, Geneva.

* Report is being issued without formal editing.

2002 Women in the Political Process, 7-8 January, Katmandu, Nepal

46th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women, 4-15 March, New York

58th Session of the Commission on Human Rights, 18 March-26 April, United Nations, Geneva, Switzerland

27th United Nations General Assembly special session on children, 8-10 May, United Nations Headquarters, New York

Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, 29 July-16 August, Geneva

2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development, 26 August-4 September, Johannesburg, South Africa

Astan Civil Society Forum, United Nations/NGO Partnerships for Democratic Governance: Building Capacities and Networks for Human Rights and Sustainable Development, CONGO meet, 9-13 December, Bangkok, Thailand

Capacity Development Workshops and Fourth Global Forum on Reinventing Government, 10-13 December, Marrakech, Morocco

Collaboration with UN Organizations in India

AIWEFA representatives have participated in UNIFEM, UNDP, UNICEF organized Beijing+5 and the follow up meeting of the World Development Summit, consultations in India and New York. AIWEFA representatives have been associated with the preparation of the NGO report for Beijing+5 and Women, Health and Development, Country Profile - India, for the South East Asian Regional Office (SEARO) of WHO. AIWEFA representatives have also participated in the meetings of NGOs for the preparation of the 10th Five Year Plan Document of India.

AIWEFA facilitated an NGO consultation at New Delhi on the gender analysis of the Budget of the Government of India at a meeting sponsored by UNIFEM in January 2002. The gender analysis of the previous years' Budgets were studied to make recommendations to the Government of India. AIWEFA participated in a meeting jointly convened by UNIFEM and Parliamentary Committee on Empowerment of Women in February 2002. The theme of the meeting was "Voice of Civil Society". It had a good participation of Members of Parliament chaired by the Chairperson of the Parliamentary Committee on Empowerment of Women with a special address by the Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission. The attendance of AIWEFA representatives at the NGOs' symposium at Bangkok in September, 1999 attendance at the Prepcom and UNGASS at New York in the year 2000, attendance at the meeting at Kathmandu on Women in the Political Process, the meetings in 2002 for Child Rights, Marrakech, were sponsored by the UN Organizations.

Relevant activities: Action in implementation of United Nations resolutions:

AIWEFA undertook a legal literacy programme for school children in New Delhi and completed it successfully. This was followed by a legal awareness project for women in two backward districts of Haryana, namely Nuh and Farrukhnagar which had a literacy of less than 5% for women. The project was supported by the

Ford Foundation for two years between 1999 and 2001. It was a cascading training project for Legal Awareness in 19 villages of Haryana accompanied by the health and Nutrition camps. Two counselling centers were set up to provide free advocacy to women in need.

In commemoration of the end of the SAARC Decade of the Girl Child, AIWEFA and other NGOs held a workshop on 8 December 2000 at the India International Center, New Delhi and resolved to work intensively on the goals for development of the girl child. The meeting focused attention on the declining sex ratio, female-foeticide and the steps needed to tackle the situation. Further analysis of the sex ratio and the status of the girl child engaged the attention of AIWEFA and other NGOs in several meetings since then. On 17 January 2001 AIWEFA joined the Global Network of Religions working for Child Rights. In July 2001 AIWEFA became a founder/charter member of the India Alliance of Child Rights. AIWEFA as a founder member of the National Forum on Women's Rights participated in the organization of the seminar on "National Policy – 50/50 Gender Balance," 17-18 August 2001, at Parliament House Annex, New Delhi followed by another workshop on the subject at Cochin on 19-20 April 2002.

AIWEFA sponsored two women's teams from Madhya Pradesh to 'Annapurna Mahila Mandal' for training in income generation skills and micro-credit. The trained women have since established their micro- enterprises. AIWEFA initiated a Newsletter in 2002 and released two issues. AIWEFA is currently updating directory of NGOs "On Common Grounds" launched in 1995 with assistance from Ford Foundation. In partnership with Sat Krishna Trust, women's empowerment and capacity building project has been initiated in Narsinghpur, Haryana. Two more villages in Gurgaon District have been adopted for initiating sustainable development with funding from Gas Authority of India Limited. The primary survey of these two villages and two other villages has been completed. A project for computer literacy in Government schools has been taken up in collaboration with the Mahanagar Telephone Limited Who has provided 10 computers including free Internet and telephone connections for 5 primary Schools. A series of three workshops at New Delhi, Bangalore and Indore were organized for discussing the use of Information Technology for achieving Development goals. AIWEFA organized the preparation of a document "Vision 2005" for identifying the various activities to be undertaken and the challenges to be faced by the Government and the Civil Society for this purpose.

2. Association internationale des mouvements familiaux de formation rurale*

(Special consultative status granted in 1998)

1. **Brief introductory statement recalling the aims and purposes of the organization**

(i) Geographical membership. Since the admission of the Association internationale des mouvements familiaux de formation rurale (AIMFR) to special consultative status with the United Nations, membership has increased.

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- In Latin America: Many rural training centres have been established in the following countries:

  Brazil: The rural training centres are grouped into two organizations: The União Nacional das Escolas Familias Agricolas do Brasil (UNEFAB) (whose members include the Movimiento de Educação Promocional do Espirito Santo (MEPES), the Associação das Escolas das Comunidades e Familias Agricolas da Bahia (AECOFABA) and several isolated training centres) and the Associação Regional das Casas Familiares Rurais (ARCAFAR North and South). In September 2002, these two organizations decided to form a single Brazilian body and adopted the term "CEFFAs" for all centres using sandwich courses. There are currently 217 rural training centre associations using the titles Casa Familiar Rural (CFR) and Escola Familia Agricola (EFA).

  Guatemala: Since the admission of AIMFR to special consultative status in 1998, the number of rural training centres has increased from 6 to 26.

  Chile: There are 7 rural training centres using sandwich courses; together, they make up the Instituto de Educación Rural (IER).

  Argentina: There are currently 38 training centres under the Asociación para la Promoción de Escuelas de la Familia Agricola (APEFA) and the Fondation Marzano.

  Uruguay: There are 3 rural training centres under the Asociación Uruguaya de Escuelas Familiares Agrarias (AUEFA).

  New projects are also under way in Colombia, Peru, Ecuador, El Salvador, Nicaragua and the Dominican Republic.

- In Africa: Like many other cooperation organizations, AIMFR has encountered many problems in Africa in recent years. This has not prevented it from maintaining a large number of rural training centres in the Central African Republic (6), Congo (5), Rwanda (4), Togo (24), Senegal (45) and Chad (4) and establishing new ones in Cameroon (5), Benin (3), Burkina Faso (2), Mauritius (1), Morocco (2) and Mali (1). Other centres have re-opened in Madagascar.

- In Asia: Since the admission of AIMFR to special consultative status in 1998, 4 rural training centres have been established in the Philippines and efforts to establish such centres are under way in Viet Nam.

- In North America: A rural training centre was established in the province of Quebec, Canada, in 2000.

- In Europe: There are currently over 500 rural training centres in Spain, France, Italy and Portugal. Relations are being established with several Eastern European countries, including Poland, Lithuania, Romania and Hungary.

(ii) Changes in sources of funding

From the financial point of view (resources and expenses), with the exception of membership dues and financing for a number of one-time activities, there has been no change in the Association's financial structure.

Through negotiation, AIMFR has expanded its training programmes and now offers an undergraduate degree (*licence*) in education (through sandwich courses) in

cooperation with the University of Tours (France), the University of Lisbon (Portugal) and the University of Brasilia (Brazil).

(iii) Affiliation to an international NGO in consultative status

The Association has maintained relations with United Nations agencies, including the Economic and Social Council, FAO, UNESCO, UNICEF, the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in Geneva.

(a) Economic and Social Council (New York) — Special consultative status

The Vice-President participated in: the May 1998 meeting of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations, at which the granting of consultative status to additional organizations was discussed; the forty-third session of the Commission on the Status of Women in March 1999; in July 1999, a meeting of the Council on the role of the United Nations in the twenty-first century, to which NGOs were invited, and a meeting of the Council with the European Union to discuss European social policy objectives for the period 2000-2015; the forty-fourth session of the Commission on the Status of Women in March 2000; and the organizational session of the Council, held in New York, in January 2001 and January 2002.

(b) FAO (Rome) — Liaison status

The Vice-President participated in a November 1998 meeting, held in Rome, at which the programme of work of FAO for the next 15 years was prepared; and in the thirtieth session of the Conference and the one hundred and seventeenth session of the Council in November 1999. In February 2000, he met with the Director-General of FAO to discuss the participation of AIMFR in the "D" training programme of FAO. In November 2001, he attended the one hundred and twenty-first session of the Council.

(c) UNESCO (Paris) — Informal relations status

In September 1999, the Secretary-General of AIMFR, Gilbert Forgeard, participated in the launching of the International Year for the Culture of Peace (2000) campaign. In October 1999, he attended the thirtieth session of the General Conference.

(d) Council of Europe (Strasbourg) — Consultative status

(e) IFAD

During his February 2000 visit to FAO in Rome, the Vice-President of AIMFR, Aimé Caekelbergh, also met with FIDA officials.

2. **Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and/or conferences and other United Nations meetings**

See paragraph 1 above.

3. **Cooperation with United Nations bodies and specialized agencies**

(a) AIMFR cooperated with FAO at the AIMFR World Congress on the theme "Let's Build our Future Together", held in Brussels on 22 and 23 November 2000; one-day workshops on training, solidarity and development were held (see

attached report). The event was attended by 460 officials and young people from rural training centre associations of various countries throughout the world.

(b) AIMFR participated in various initiatives proposed at the FAO World Food Summit concerning the preparation of a charter on the right to food.

4. Other relevant activities

(i) Action in implementation of United Nations resolutions

See paragraph 3 (b) above on action in connection with the right to food.

(ii) Consultations and coordination with officials of the United Nations Secretariat

(iii) Preparation of papers and/or other material at the request of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies, or of the United Nations Secretariat

AIMFR submitted comments to the Assistant Secretary-General for External Relations regarding the report of the Secretary-General on arrangements and practices for the interaction of non-governmental organizations in all activities of the United Nations system (A/57/170), submitted to the United Nations General Assembly at its fifty-third session under item 58 of the provisional agenda.

(iv) Other examples of consultative and substantive activities, including financial assistance received from or given to the United Nations, field-level collaboration ...

AIMFR collaborated with FAO experts on the question of training for rural youths.

3. International Association for Religious Freedom*

(General consultative status granted in 1995)

1. Introduction

In 2000, the International Association for Religious Freedom (IARF) celebrated the centenary of its founding in Boston in May 1900 as an association of individuals and groups who share a commitment to work for freedom of religion or belief through interfaith understanding and Co-operation. At the end of 2002, the IARF had 100 member groups, 11 national chapters, plus an estimated 1,500 individual members in over 30 countries. Member groups have increased by some 20% since the submission of the last report (1995-1998), but individual membership as such has declined. The programmes of the IARF have been re-organized under the new International Council (Aug. 1999-2002), and the new General Secretary, who assumed office in April 2000. After a worldwide consultation of the membership, a Strategic Plan (2001-07), including an overall statement of purpose, was adopted by the Council in March 2001. The purpose is derived from Article 18 of the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and is, in part, as follows: "The purpose of the International Association for Religious Freedom (IARF) is to work for freedom of religion and belief because it is a precious human right that potentially enables the best within our religious lives, or our search for truth or

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enlightenment, to flourish. It requires:

- *Freedom from oppressive interference or discrimination by the state, government or Society's institutions on the grounds of religion or belief*
- *Mutual understanding, respect and the promotion of harmony, or at least "tolerance", between communities or individuals of different religions or belief*
- *An essential accountability by religious communities to ensure that their own practices uphold the fundamental dignity and human rights of their members and others*

IARF's activities have been planned and supervised by regional offices, which, by 2002, were located in Bangalore (India), Budapest (Hungary), Dumaguette (Philippines), New York & Massachusetts (USA), and Tokyo (Japan). Oversight of these offices is managed by the organization's International Secretariat, which is based in Oxford, England. Financially, the IARF is principally supported by its membership, but has received one major project grant from the Rockefeller Foundation in the time period covered by this report.

2. ECOSOC Role & UN Interventions

The IARF received category II consultative status with ECOSOC in 1972 and general consultative status in 1995. It last submitted a quadrennial report (1995-98) in 1999. From 1996 until August 2002, the IARF has been represented at meetings of both the Commission on Human Rights and the Sub commission on the Promotion and the Protection of Human Rights in Geneva. IARF representatives expressed concern for situations and victims of religious persecution and intolerance at UN forums. Interventions made at the Commission on Human Rights during the years 1999-2002 were made on the following agenda items:

1999: Interventions on the question of the violation of human rights and fundamental freedoms (item 9), on the question of religious intolerance as relates to civil and political rights (item 11e), on the integration of the human rights of women (item 12), and on the question of minorities with reference to groups and particular individuals (item 14b).

2000: Interventions on all same items as above.

2001: Interventions on items 9, 11e, and 14b.

2002: Interventions on items 9, 14b and, additionally, on the rights of the child (point 13)

Interventions made at the Sub-Commission on Human Rights were on protection of minorities (item 8) in 1999 and on the violation of human rights (item 2) in 2000 and 2001.

3. Co-operation with UN Bodies: Supporting the Special Rapporteur

On 5th December 2001, the new IARF representative resident in Geneva, was instrumental in re-starting the Geneva Committee on Freedom of Religion or Belief and became its Secretary. One of the primary objectives of this committee is to support the work of he UN Special Rapporteur on questions of freedom of religion or belief. Meetings have been held approximately every six weeks since the end of

2001 and a Hearing with the Special Rapporteur and others was arranged at the 58th session of the Commission on Human Rights in April 2002. A particular effort has been made to encourage joint statements by NGOs both at the 58th session and in preparation for the 59th session. Co-operation with the work of the Special Rapporteur has involved regular meetings with the IARF representatives in Geneva, especially in relation to the "International Consultative Conference on School Education in Relation with Freedom of Religion and Belief, Tolerance, and Non-Discrimination," which was held in Madrid, Spain in November 2001. IARF also worked with the Special Rapporteur in December 2002 in the framework of a meeting sponsored by the *Oslo Coalition for Freedom of Religion or Belief*.

4. Other Activities in Support of the UN

In November 2001, IARF put considerable efforts into supporting activities to celebrate and promote the 20th Anniversary of the 1981 *UN Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief*. IARF's South Asia Coordinating Council organized, for example, a public function with prominent speakers from different faith traditions at a Sikh venue in Delhi, and IARF has printed the 1981 *Declaration* in poster form for distribution, including as a poster centerfold in the publication *"IARF World"*. In New York, the IARF consistently supports the NGO Committee on Freedom of Religion or Belief. IARF representatives attend these meetings regularly and are involved every year in planning activities to observe the anniversary of the *Declaration* in November. Two members of IARF worked as conveners on the topic 'Religion' for the UN Millennium Forum in 2000.

In reference to the UN-sponsored Madrid conference noted above, IARF's International Secretariat assembled a delegation of six persons, including three members with special expertise in education. Our researcher commissioned and carefully edited a booklet of eleven essays to inform delegates on the models and practice of religious education in schools from Asia, Europe, the Middle East, Africa, and the Americas. This booklet has been distributed at various UN and NGO forums. Finally, in 2002, the IARF held its triennial Congress in Budapest, Hungary. UN Special Rapporteur, Prof. Abdelfattah Amor, was the principal guest speaker and Prof. Kevin Boyle, Senior Adviser to the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, served as a panel moderator.

5. Communications: The *IARF World* is a regular newsletter distributed to membership and other interested parties. It is published twice a year with 4,000 copies produced on each occasion. Specific articles commenting on UN work in the period covered by this report (1999-2002) include:

- "IARF General Secretary Joins Special Rapporteur for UN Address," Issue #1, 1999
- "IARF at the UN in Geneva," April 2000
- "Revival of the NGO Committee on Freedom of Religion or Belief," and "20th Anniversary Remembered," (with poster pullout on Declaration) Oct. 2001
- "IARF Makes an Impact in Madrid," "Re-Launch of Geneva-based Committee on Freedom of Religion or Belief," and "20th Anniversary Remembered in India," March 2002

IARF's web site (at www.iarf.net) has a UN page reporting on activities at the UN in both New York and Geneva. A 'Global Issues' link also summarizes situations of religious persecution around the world with information gathered from reputable news sources and cited accordingly. These reports are updated quarterly.

4. International Association for Volunteer Effort*

(Special consultative status granted in 1987)

The Organisation IAVE aims to promote and support the development of volunteering world-wide as a key building block of civil Society, and to celebrate the achievements of volunteers It is a global network *of* volunteers and volunteer organizations, with members in over 90 countries and in every world region. The membership in developing countries is bigger than in developed countries, where there are more likely to be strong indigenous support structures fox volunteering based around a national volunteer center and or a network of local volunteer centers. IAVE has a very small secretariat, with only one part-time paid post at present, and is almost entirely dependent on the volunteer commitment of its members and office-bearers. In the interests of efficiency and economy IAVE has introduced a new Board structure based on regional elections with a small number of additional Board positions to bring in special expertise on key current priorities – at present *these* are youth volunteering, corporate volunteering, national volunteer centers, and international organizations which engage volunteers.

In 1998 IAVE produced its first strategic plan, which was reviewed in 2001 at the end of the International Year. A new Strategic Plan for 2002-06 was published in March 2002, committing the organization to four strategic objectives; (i) to position IAVE as a leadership organization for volunteering world-wide; (ii) to develop global networks to focus on relevant global issues; (iii) to develop a global membership reflecting the breadth and diversity of volunteering; (iv) to ensure good governance through efficient and effective management.

The UN International Year of volunteers, 2001

IAVE played a major part in the promotion of the International Year of Volunteers, encouraging its members to support the year, and to use it as an opportunity to showcase volunteering in new ways. IAVE members around the world played their part in the outstanding success of the Year, sewing on IAVE Committees, negotiating resources from Government and the business sector, and organizing events. IAVE was honored to be represented at the opening ceremony for the Year in the UN General Assembly in New York in November 2000, and also at the meeting of the General Assembly in November 2002, which approved the second Resolution in support of volunteering. The IAVE World Volunteering Conference in 200 1 was recognized as the opening event of the Year. Held in Amsterdam and hosted by the Netherlands Volunteer Centre, it attracted 1800 delegates from 160 countries, and was a well-balanced mix of celebration and serious reflection on the future of volunteering. The conference opened with a video message from Kofi Annan, and was honored by a visit From the Queen of the Netherlands. We were delighted also to welcome Gillian Sorensen and Sharon

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Capeling-Alakija. The conference approved a new Universal Declaration on Volunteering, and produced a Global Agenda for Action. IAVE was well represented at the UNV Conference for IAVE Committees in Geneva in October 2001, and at the follow-up seminar in Bonn in 2002, and has been proactive in publicizing the UN Resolutions of 2001 and 2002. IAVE closed the Year with an International Youth Summit in Tokyo, hosted by IAVE Japan.

Developing Partnerships

A Memorandum of Understanding is now in place between UNV, IAVE and Civicus, recognizing common interests and committing the organisations to work together from time to time. A meeting in Bonn in early July 2003 will identify the primary targets for cooperation. IAVE also has MoU's with Points of Light Foundaton in the USA, with the Association for Volunteer Administration, and with the European Volunteer Centre. It is also a named Strategic Partner in the new *Engage* initiative, an international partnership to promote and extend corporate volunteering as a key element of Corporate Social Responsibility.

IAVE Conferences

The IAVE World Volunteering Conference in 2002 was held in Seoul, Korea. The theme, *Volunteers: Reaching Out For Peace and Reconciliation*, attracted over 1000 delegates from 60 countries, including 130 Young volunteers from 45 countries. The President of South Korea opened the conference, and the President of East Timor gave the opening keynote address. In a new arrangement with the Institute for Volunteering Research in London, a selection of the papers from the conference will be published as a special issue of their journal *Voluntary Action*.

Between *1999* and *2002* six IAVE regional or sub-regional conferences were held in Asia-Pacific, Latin America, North America, Europe and Africa. All IAVE conferences are hosted and managed by local committees. They are very effective means *of* raising awareness of the importance and impact of volunteering, draw leaders from the public and private sectors into the volunteering community, and offer a unique opportunity for volunteer leaders to build their skills and to learn from colleagues around the world.

Other Activities

IAVE members include individuals, organisations and corporate bodies. In addition, the number of affiliated national associations, each with their own members, continues to grow. The IAVE newsletter is translated by volunteers into Spanish, French and Japanese, making it a useful communication tool for sharing of new ideas and for problem solving. IAVE also has a volunteer liaison representative who attends all UN public information meetings for NGO's and provides regular reports for the IAVE Board and newsletter on UN activities. IAVE's Presidents and Board members have presented papers in international and national conferences on a wide range of topics. Examples include:

Museums Conference, Mexico, 2002

EURAG 17th International Conference, Milan, 2002

Scottish Symposium on Volunteering, Edinburgh, 2001

Volunteering After IAVE, Melbourne, 2002

IAVE Commemorative Conference, Tokyo, 2001

Volunteering and Civil Society, Karlsruhe, 2002

World Civil Society Forum, Geneva, 2002

UN DPI NGO Conferences, New York, 2000 & 2001

IAVE is actively engaged in exploring the connections between volunteering, civil Society and social, capital, and the President has presented two papers on this in the current year at conferences in Northern Ireland and in Chile Papers have been published in research journalist in Australia and the United Kingdom. In support of youth volunteering all IAVE conferences now include a youth track or youth forum. The two young volunteers on IAVE's Board have represented the organization at conferences in Egypt, Japan and Spain

5. International Council of Women*

(General consultative status granted in 1947)

Aims and Purposes

According to its Constitution, The International Council of Women, founded in 1888, aims to unite women of all Nations, Races, Religions or Cultural Traditions for a common action, to promote equality between Women and Men and also to promote sustainable Development and work in favor of achieving Peace through the peaceful resolution of conflicts. The ICW was already in relationship with the League of Nations and was one of the international organizations in the first group of 39 accepted into Non Governmental Consultative Status with ECOSOC in 1947. It was promoted to Category one Consultative Status in 1969. Moreover the International Council of Women was admitted in special relationship with ILO as early as 1960 and WHO in 1981. Through its international network, the ICW is able to offer a well-adapted structure for dissemination of information, ideas and decisions adopted by the different bodies of the United Nations. The ICW is currently engaged in mainstreaming the gender issues in all spheres of human activities and therefore able to report on the difficulties met by women of the grassroots.

Composition

At present the International Council of Women is composed of 61 National Councils of Women in the same number of States. Since our last report in 1998, new councils have joined the organization and others have disappeared due to wars and political critical situations. All the NC Constitutions should be based on the same principles as expressed in the ICW Constitution. Before affiliation is granted, those National Councils have to show their will to adhere to those principles and also be representative of the women of the Country. This commitment is not always an easy one, the National Council of South Africa, whose women joined the ICW in 1913, had to fight to maintain its plural racial nature until Apartheid was dismantled. Now the National Council is mainstreaming the gender issues brought by the change of system and the references to the customary law.

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Participation in United Nations Summits, Conferences, Meetings Commissions

The ICW is conscious of the privilege of being in relationship with the ECOSOC and the UN system, which is the sole institution, empowered to keep Peace in the world and without peace no progress will ever be possible.

The ICW presents an efficient network ready to disseminate the Resolutions, Decisions and other texts adopted by the United Nations and, on the other hand, the ICW is able to bring to the public attention the voices of weaker women groups who have not at their disposal the means or making their voices heard. The ICW was able to accredit representatives to all the World Conferences organized by the UN during the last four years and intends to continue its collaboration on the different subjects within its National Councils.

The ICW took part in the most important events organized in the different Headquarters of the UN: preparatory Committees, Committees sessions, all the sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women, the Commission of Human Rights and its subsidiary organs, the Sub Commission for Protection of Human Rights. Alliteratively the ICW representatives followed the ECOSOC sessions in New York and Geneva.

They also took park in the Conference held in UNGASS on the implementation of the 1995 Copenhagen World Summit for Social Development (Copenhagen+5), Geneva 2000.

UNGASS for an overall Review and Appraisal of the Implementation of the Habitat Agenda (Istanbul+5) New York, 2001.

UNGASS on HIV/AIDS, New York, 2001.

UNGASS on Children, New York, 2002.

UNIDO General Conferences and sessions of the Industrial Development Board, Vienna.

UNDCP: all sessions of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, Vienna.

UNODCCP: all sessions of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, Vienna.

UN-Habitat: all sessions or the Commission of UNCHS and UN-Habitat, Nairobi.

Preparatory Committees and World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related intolerance, held in Durban, 2001.

Preparatory Committees and World Summit on Sustainable Development held in Johannesburg, 2002.

UNFCCC: Framework Convention on Climate Change - Conference of the parties, held in Bonn, Marrakech, New Delhi.

UNEP: sessions of the Governing Council, Nairobi.

UNHCR, different sessions organized by the High Commissioner, Geneva.

WHO, World Health Assembly, 53rd, 54th, 55th, 56th sessions, Geneva.

ILO, General Conference, 87th, 88th, 89th, 90th sessions, Geneva.

FAO: all FAO Conferences, Councils of the FAO, Committees on World Food security, Committee on Fisheries, World Food Days, Rome

FAO: World Food Summit, Five Years later, 2002, Rome

UNESCO, General Conferences, 30th and 31st, Paris

Moreover the ICW team in Geneva is taking part in the Preparatory Committees set up by the ITU for the coming World Summit on Information Society (December 2003).

The ICW is following with the greatest interest the peaceful revolution bringing women at the same level as men, especially inside the UN system.

To implement this objective, the ICW is appointing a network of accredited representatives to the ECOSOC and UN Specialized Agencies and Bodies. Representatives are also active with Regional Economic Commissions in Europe, Asia & the Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean. In order to work in accordance with the UN System four regional groupings of National Councils have been set up:

In Europe, the European Center of ICW (ECICW) has consultative status with the Council of Europe and has a leading role between NGO's; it's one of the founders of the European Women's Lobby. All legislation relating to equality of opportunity for women and men is closely studied and monitored and recommendations are made to the European Commission.

In America: the Regional Council of the Americas (RCA) and in Asia (Asia Regional Council - ARC) and Pacific the National Councils are also active in this field. Unhappily in Africa, despite repeated tentative, the political instability did not yet allow the ICW to build the same links.

The four groups are holding regular meetings to discuss their own problems and report back to the triennial statutory General Assembly.

Other relevant activities

The ICW has set up a system of small development projects organized by women, for women and with the help of women. A special development fund has been created to received grants and manage financial aspects enabling local Women's Associations to initiate relevant activities aimed at improving the life of their communities, e.g. with better food and nutrition, water supplies and schooling, or creating small income generating projects.

In the same field of action, the ICW is cooperating with four sister organizations called the "Five-O" to help implementing more ambitious projects.

Financial resources

Annual fees, decided by the General Assembly, are paid by the National Councils to keep the Headquarters working; and occasionally the ICW receives subventions from UN Agencies to help specific actions.

During past years some legacies were also bestowed for special purposes, such as for helping translations, or publications by donators. The ICW is publishing a quarterly review both in English and French.

6. Japan Federation of Bar Associations*

(Special consultative status granted in 1999)

1. Introduction

The Japan Federation of Bar Associations (JFBA) aims, in view of protection of fundamental human rights and of realization of social justice, to govern matters relating to the guidance, liaison and supervision of all attorneys and bar associations in order to maintain their dignity and improve and advance the work of attorneys. During the reporting period, the JFBA has actively participated in the ECOSOC subsidiary bodies, major UN conferences and relevant meetings of the UN bodies, in particular, in the areas of human rights, crime prevention and criminal justice. The JFBA has also contributed to the works of the UN through active consultations and collaboration with the officials of the UN Secretariat or Specialized Agencies and members of the UN Human Rights Treaty Monitoring Bodies.

2. Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and/or conferences and other United Nations meetings

The JFBA has participated in the following UN bodies, conferences and meetings by delegating the representatives, making written and/or oral statements, and producing the reports:

- Attended the 51st session (Geneva, August 1999) and the 54th session (Geneva, July-August 2002) of the Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights. At its 54th session, made an oral statement on the item of administration of justice.

- Attended the 44th session (also as the Preparatory Committee for the Special Session of the General Assembly, New York, February-March 2000), the 45th session (New York, March 2001) and the 46th session (New York, March 2002) of the Commission on the Status of Women.

- Attended the 5th session (Vienna, October 1999), the 6th session (Vienna, December 1999), the 7th session (Vienna, January 2000), the 9th session (Vienna, June 2000), the 10th session (Vienna, July 2000), and the 11th session (Vienna, October 2000) of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Elaboration of a Convention against Transnational Organized Crime.

- Attended the UN Workshop on National Plans of Action for Human Rights Education in the Asia-Pacific Region (Tokyo, January 2000) and issued a working paper for the workshop.

- Attended the 23rd Special Session of the General Assembly entitled "Women: 2000: Gender Equality, Development and Peace for the Twenty-First Century" (New York, June 2000).

- Attended the 10th UN Congress on the Prevention of Crime and Treatment of Offenders (Vienna, April 2000) and made a written statement (A/CONF.187/NGO/JFBA/1 dated 10 April 2000) on the subjects of promoting the rule of law and strengthening the criminal justice system and of the criminal victims

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and an oral statement on the subjects of the effective crime prevention, the civil proceedings for anti-racketeering activities in cooperation between the community, and the women in the criminal justice system.

- Attended the 10th session of Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (Vienna, May 2001).

- Attended the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance (Durban, August - September 2001) and issued the report for the conference. The vice president headed the delegation of the JFBA.

- Attended the 56th meeting at the 26th session of the Committee on the Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Geneva, August 2001), where the second periodic report of Japan was examined. The vice president headed the delegation of the JFBA, submitted the detailed report to the Committee and briefed the Committee members.

- Attended the 459th meeting at the 58th session of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (Geneva, March 2001), where the first and second periodic report of Japan was examined. Submitted the detailed report to the Committee and briefed the Committee members.

3. Cooperation with UN bodies and specialized agencies

One of the most active parts of activities of the JFBA to support the UN is its close cooperation with the UN Human Rights Treaty Monitoring Bodies. In addition to the participation by the representatives of the JFBA in the meetings of the Treaty Monitoring Bodies and the submission of the JFBA reports and the briefing to provide the information from its own sources on the occasions of the examination of the periodic reports of Japan, the JFBA has invited the members of those Bodies to Japan and organized symposiums and consultations in Japan. The JFBA also invited the speakers from the local office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees to the training seminar for the members of the JFBA and to the symposium on the refugee issues. The record of such activities is as the following:

- Invited Brian Burdekin, Special Adviser on National Institutions to the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, the United Nations, as a speaker for the symposium on the establishment of a national human rights institution and held a consultation (Tokyo, October 2002).

- Invited Christine Chanet, a member of the Human Rights Committee, as a speaker for the symposium on the implementation of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and held a consultation (Tokyo, September 2002).

- Invited Eibe Riedel, vice chairperson of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, as a speaker for a symposium on the implementation of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights organized by the JFBA and its member bar associations and held consultations (Tokyo, July 2001).

- Invited Koki Odano, an officer of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees in Tokyo, as a speaker at the training seminar on international cooperation in the judicial field for the individual members of the JFBA (Tokyo, June 2000).

- Organized a symposium on the reform of the refugee determination system under joint sponsorship with the member bar associations by inviting Dr. Diego Rosero, Senior Legal Officer of the Tokyo Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (Tokyo, November 2002).

4. Other relevant activities

Consultation and cooperation with officials of the UN Secretariat

The JFBA, as part of efforts to enhance its support to and further collaboration with the UN bodies and to raise the understanding about the work of the UN bodies among the members of the JFBA, has engaged in the consultation with and/or organized the symposiums on human rights issues by inviting the officials of the UN Secretariat as following:

- Invited Bacre Ndiaye, Director of the New York Office of the UN Office of High Commissioner for Human Rights as a speaker for the JFBA International Seminar and held a briefing and a consultation on the work of the UN Office of High Commissioner for Human Rights (Tokyo, March 2000).

- Held a consultation with Osamu Shiraishi, an official of the Office of High Commissioner for Human Rights, on the digital dissemination of the information on the UN human rights documents and activities through the homepage of the UN Office of High Commissioner for Human Rights (Tokyo, July 2001).

- Held a briefing and a consultation with Nicholas Howen, Regional Representative for Asia-Pacific to UN High Commissioner for Human Rights on the relevant human rights issues in the Asia-Pacific region (Tokyo, October 2002).

Other examples of consultative and substantive activities, including financial assistance received from or given to the UN, field-level collaboration, joint sponsorship of meetings, seminars, studies, etc.

The JFBA has helped through its publication to disseminate the information and to enhance awareness and understanding among its members and the general public on the work and activities of the UN, inter alia, in the area of human rights. Some of the topics introduced in the articles during the reporting period include the consultative status for NGOs with the UN Economic and Social Council, the individual complaint procedures under the UN human rights treaties, the training for the judges and lawyers on the human rights standard adopted at the UN.

The reports of the attendance of the representatives of the JFBA to the UN meetings and conference mentioned above were timely publicized. The reports of the seminars and the symposiums with the summary or the full transcript of the speeches made by the speakers from the UN Secretariat or the UN Human Rights Treaty Monitoring Bodies were also publicized in the JFBA periodic publications.

7. Korean Institute for Women and Politics*

(Special consultative status granted in 1999)

The Korean Institute for Women and Politics (KIWP) was established in 1989 as non-profit NGG with the aim of promoting the status of women through increased political participation and empowerment. KIWP seeks to mobilize political interests and concerns of Korean women; cultivate democratic political culture within Korean society, carry out researchers to promote women's political participation; provide

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education and training programs for prospective women political leaders, and enhance international cooperation among women's organizations around the world. KIWP is not only a leading women's organization within Korea, but also an international women's organization, as the East Asian Focal Point of the Center for Asia-Pacific Women in Politics (CAPWIP), which has vigorously conducted various activities, such as exchanging information and strategies with other women's organization within Korea, for the increase of women's political participation and holding international seminars. KIWP carried out many activities to implement the United Nations Resolutions to promote political status of women. It will continue to publicize the UN activities concerning the political empowerment of women and mobilize public opinion to implement the UN resolutions especially in Korea and in East Asian countries.

KIWP acquired a Special Consultative Status with the ECOSOC on 16 December 1998. Since then it has actively participated in the sessions of UN Commission on the Status of Women every year (43rd Session-47th Session). KIWP participated in Power and Decision Making, Institutional Mechanisms for Women, Women in Politics Caucus and Asia – Pacific Women's Caucus, made oral statements and participated in discussions on the implementation of the Platform for Action for the Beijing Fourth World Conference on Women.

KIWP cooperated with such UN bodies and specialized agencies as UNDP, UNIFEM, ESCAP, UNDP-Asia Pacific Gender Equality Network (UNDP AAGEN) and UNDP participatory Action Research to Advance Government Option and Networks (PARAGON) through its leadership role at the CAPWIP that has its headquarters in Manila, the Philippines.

Firstly, KIWP host the 2nd Congress of East-Asian Affairs Women in Politics, sponcered by UNDP and the Korean Presidential Commission on Women's Affairs (Seoul, Korea, 9-10 February 1999). This forum was a consequence of the UNDP's project to formulate a program to promote gender equality in East Asia (RAS/97/001 Promoting Gender Equality in Asia-Pacific Region). Experts on women in politics and women political leaders from Korea, China, Japan, and Mongolia, participated to discuss the specific plans of joint programs for political empowerment of women.

Secondly, the researchers of KIWP participated in Trainer's Training on Empowering Women for Transformative Leadership and Citizenship, held by CAPWIP and supported by UNDP (Manila Philippines, 23 October-1 November 2000).

Thirdly, the Executive Director and researcher of KIWP also attended CAPWIP Workshop on gender in Political Representation with the theme of "50-50 by 2005: Get the Balance Right!!) (Manila, Philippines, 21-22 March 2001). This workshop was sponsored by UNIFEM, ESCAP and UNDP-APGEN.

Fourthly, the Chairperson of KIWP and its members participated in CAPWIP Congress on Media and Transformative Leadership that was co-hosted by Center for Media Freedom and Responsibility and sponsored by UNDP, ESCAP, UNDP PARAGON and UNDP-APGEN (Manila, Philippines 8-10 November 2001). In this congress, the Chairperson of KIWP made a speech on "The Political Participation of Women in the Asia-Pacific Region" and the staffs of KIWP actively participated in the workshop of "The Role of the Media for the Development of Women Leadership" and group discussions.

And KIWP carried out the project to build the East-Asia Women in Politics (EAWIP) website as was decided by CAPWIP, sponsored by UNDP (RAS/97/001 Promoting Gender Equality in Asia-Pacific Region 11 November 1999-15 August 2000).

Other important activities of KIWP to promote understanding of the UN and its roles have been in the form of Seminars, Model Sessions of the UN commission on the Status of Women (MUNCSW), etc. Particularly, KIWP held a seminar on The Advancement of Women and the Role of United Nations marking the 50th anniversary of the UN (Seoul Korea, 10 May 1999. In this seminar, participants discussed the roles of the UN for women's development over the last 50 years. KIWP held two Model Sessions of the UN Commission on the Status of Women (Seoul, Korea). First 26-28 August 1999, Second 16-18 August 2000 where about 100 college students participated This Model UN Commission gave participants precious opportunities to comprehend international women's issues discussed in the UN to indirectly experience the situation of women in each member state of the UN, to practice the rules of proceedings in the real Commission and to appreciate the roles of the UN contributing to the improvement of women's status and gender equality. The grand prizewinner received scholarship to participate in the UN CSW held in the UN headquarters in New York City. KIWP attended a Roundtable for NGOs that acquired Consultative Status with UN ECOSOC, including Good Neighbors International, MINBYUN-Lawyers for a Democratic Society, Global Cooperation Society, Korea Women's Association United, Korea National Council of Women, Korean Federation for Environmental Movement, and PAX Romana (Seoul, Korea 16 July 2001). Participants agreed that they would have regular meetings, share information and keep cooperation.

KIWP has also conducted some training programs. It carried out Political Leadership Training for Young Women in Seoul three times (July 1999, November 1999 and September 2000). Another example of the KIWP training programs is the Training of Trainers (TOT) for Political Education (Gyeonggi, Korea 29-31 October 1999). This programme targeted the trainers who were responsible for political education in women in politics field, and aimed at sharing and developing a variety of educational methods and programs. KIWP also provided Training programs for Women Candidates for the June 13 Local Election with the theme of "2002 Local Autonomy through Women's Power" and carried out this training programme for women candidates eight times (2001-2002). As a result, 43 KIWP members were among the total 142 women elected.

KIWP has successfully organized international conferences on women in politics. For instance, KIWP held a group discussion on Women's Political Empowerment and Regional Network at the 1999 Seoul International Conference of NGO, inviting experts on women in politics from Korea, India, South Africa, Zambia, Australia and the Philippines (Seoul, Korea 13 October 1999). Moreover KIWP held a lot of symposia to extend women's participation in politics.

Symposia on Women and Politics (1999-2002)

: "Past, Present, and Future of Korean Women and Politics" (Seoul, Korea, 13 July 1999)

: "16th General Election, Choice of Women Voters" (Seoul, Korea, 16 February 2000)

: "4:13 General Election and Women" (Seoul, Korea, 28 April 2000)

: "Women as Critical Citizens in the 21st Century" (Seoul, Korea, 26 June 2000)

: "Transform What? Women in Politics" (Seoul, Korea, 27 April 2001)

: "2002 Local Election and Women" (Seoul, Korea, 15 May 2001)

: "Korean Women and Local Politics in the 21st Century" (Seoul, Korea, 4 July 2001)

: "2002 Choice, Women, Victory" (Seoul, Korea, 26 February 2002)

: "June 13 Local Election and Women" (Seoul, Korea, 2 July 2002)

: "2002 Presidential Election and Women" (Seoul, Korea, 9 September 2002)

The recent activities of KIWP were associated with the local and presidential elections held in June and December 2002. KIWP formed the **6.13 Local Elections Reporters** that reported and monitored the election campaigns of women candidates who ran for the Local Election throughout the campaign period (Seoul, Korea, April-July 2002). KIWP also organized Students' Participation Group for Monitoring 2002 Presidential Election Pledges (Seoul, Korea, September-November 2002). The group, which was made up of about 40 college students in Seoul, discussed and studied current issues and problems related to four topics (Women in Politics & Administration, Women's Labor & Education, Women's Welfare & Health, and Violence against Women), and consequently formulated campaign pledges which the presidential candidates would need to practice.

KIWP published **Who's Who of Women Politicians in Korea** which contains around 1,500 Potential Women Political Leaders (Seoul, Korea, December 2002). This project was sponsored by **Ministry of Gender Equality**. KIWP publishes a quarterly ***Newsletter (Women & Politics)*** in Korean and in English in order to enhance the understanding of women and politics.

8. CITYNET — Regional Network of Local Authorities*

(Special consultative status granted in 1995)

I. Introduction

This quadrennial reports covers the activities of CITYNET from January 1999 to December 2002: Objectives and Priority Areas in Section II; Major Achievements in Section III, Participation in the United Nations Meetings in Section IV; Joint Programme activities with the United Nations Agencies in Section V and Publications in Section VI.

II. Objectives and Priority Areas

CITYNET is the only network of its kind promoting cooperation among a whole range of stakeholders; these include Local Governments, Development Authorities, Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), Community-based

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organizations (CBOs), National Governmental Organizations, Associations of Local Authorities, and Research and Training Institutions. Starting with 26 members in 1987, CITYNET has grown to become an international organization of 104 members in 19 countries as at 4 December 2002; the full list is attached. Its goal is to create "People-Friendly Cities" that are socially just, ecologically sustainable, politically participatory, economically productive, culturally vibrant and globally connected. The priority areas and the modality of programme activities are those agreed upon following survey and research of members' priorities, i.e. Environment and Health, municipal finance; management of infrastructure, poverty alleviation, Urban governance.

III. Major Achievements

During the past four years CITYNET continued to co-operate and work closely with various UN organizations and agencies. Some major achievements in this period include:

Advocacy for local Government

In collaboration with UNCHS (presently UN-HABITAT), CITYNET provided input for the final draft of the World Charter, a follow-up action to the 1996 Habitat II Conference, by organizing the first regional meeting on the Charter in November 1999 in Katmandu, Nepal. The Katmandu declaration was adopted and submitted to UNCHS.

The Regional High-Level Programme Activities

UN institutions reorganizing the importance of CITYNET in the implementation of the Habitat Agenda, invited CITYNET to co-organize the Regional High-Level Meeting in the Preparation for Istanbul + 5, from 19 to 23 October 2000 in Hangzhou, China, together with UNESCAP, UNCHS, UNDP TUGI, WHO, and ADB. Through active involvement of CITYNET, local governments and NGOs were well represented at this meeting.

CITYNET Bangkok Congress 2001

The City Net Bangkok Congress 2001 was held from 29 October to 2 November 2001 and attracted more then 250 mayors, urban stakeholders and more then 10 international organizations including ADB, Asia-Urbs of EC, UNAID, UNCHS, UNDP TUGI, UNICEF, World Bank, UNESCAP, who jointly addressed "the people-centered cities", which was the Congress' theme through various symposia and other activities.

City-to-City Cooperation

CITYNET was nominated for the UN-HABITAT Scroll of Honor by UNESCAP, the World Bank, San Fernando, and UN-HABITAT Fukuoka Office and was awarded the esteemed Scroll of Honor for the year 2002 for its work in promoting city-to-city cooperation.

IV. Participation in the UN Meetings

CITYNET participated and was represented in the following activities of the UN:

1. IDNDR-ESCAP Regional Meeting for Asia: Risk Reduction and Society in the 21st Century, 23-26 February 1999, Bangkok, Thailand – The Bangkok Metropolitan Administration (BMA) represented CITYNET at this meeting and submitted the "Bangkok Declaration"

2. UNESCAP Workshop on the establishment of the Network of Local Government Training and Research Institutes in Asia and the Pacific, 2-5 March 1999, Bangkok, Thailand

3. UNESCAP 55th Session of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, 22-28 April 1999, Bangkok, Thailand – the Deputy Permanent Secretary of BMA represented CITYNET and made a presentation on CITYNET programmes

4. UNCHS 17th session of the Commission on Human Settlements 5-14 May 1999, Nairobi, Kenya

5. UNESCAP interregional workshop on social implications of the financial crisis and expert group meeting on the agenda for action on social development in the ESCAP region, 25-27 May 1999, Bangkok, Thailand

6. UNDP/TUGI Regional consultation on Good Urban Governance, 9-11 August 1999, Penang, Malaysia

7. UNESCAP Regional Hearing, 9-10 September 1999, Tokyo Japan

8. UNESCAP Committee on Poverty Alleviation, 15-17 September 1999, Bangkok, Thailand

9. UNESCAP 2nd Session of the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources Development, 13-15 October 1999, Bangkok, Thailand – The Secretary General made a presentation on the important role of CITYNET in addressing urban environment issues

10. UNESCAP Senior Officials' Meeting on Agenda for Action and Social Development in the ESCAP Region, 1-5 November 1999, Bangkok, Thailand – The BMA represented CITYNET and made a statement on the poverty alleviation programmes of CITYNET

11. UNESCAP Second Session of the Committee on Transport, Communication, Tourism, and Infrastructure Development, UNESCAP Second Session of Committee on Transport, Communications, Tourism, and Infrastructure Development, 24-26 November 1999 Bangkok, Thailand

12. UNESCAP Second Session of the Socio-Economic Measures to Alleviate Poverty in Rural and Urban Areas, 1-3 December 1999, Bangkok, Thailand – The BMA represented CITYNET and made a presentation on the poverty alleviation programmes of CITYNET from 1998 to 2001 and safety programmes in Bangkok

13. UNESCAP 5th Meeting of the RICAP (the Regional Inter-agency Committee for Asia and the Pacific) Subcommittee on Urbanization, 3 April 2000, Bangkok, Thailand – The Programme Manager made a presentation on CITYNET programme activities for 2000

14. UNESCAP the 56th Session, 1-7 June 2000 Bangkok, Thailand – The Deputy Director General of Policy and Planning Department of BMA represented

CITYNET and made a statement of the importance of UNESCAP's continued support for CITYNET particularly in relation to TCDC funds

15. UNU, GEIC (Global Environment Partnership Plaza), UNIC Environment Partnership Cities' Mayors Conference, 3 June 2000, Tokyo Japan

16. UNCHS Technical Advisory Committee for Best Practices, 5-8 June 2000, Shenyang, P. R. China

17. TUGI, UNDP/UNOPS South-Asia Regional Conference on Urbanization and good Urban Governance, 10-12 July 2000, Kathmandu, Nepal

18. UNEP Workshop on Environmental Management Systems for Local Authorities/Municipalities, 29 August 2000, Paris, France – The Programme Manager made a presentation on the key strengths of CITYNET in putting EMS in to practice

19. UNCHS/UNESCAP High Level Regional Meeting in preparation for Istanbul+5, 19-22 October 2000, Hangzhou, P.R. China

20. The Third UNEP IETC International Advisory Board Meeting, 29 November 2000, Osaka, Japan – The Executive Officer attended and offered CITYNET's future collaboration

21. The Third United Nations Conference on Least Development Countries: Meeting of Mayors on City-to-City Cooperation, 15 May 2001, Brussels, Belgium – The Program Manager prepared the presentation on CITYNET lessons learnt made by Mr. Henry Chabert, Former Deputy Mayor of Lyon

22. General Assembly for an Overall Review and Appraisal of the Implementation of the Outcome of the UN Conference on Human Settlements (Istanbul+5) 6-8 June 2001, New York, U.S.A.

23. Preparatory Meeting to Bangkok to discuss about the Congress with UNESCAP, BMA and other related organizations, 23-27 June 2001, Bangkok, Thailand

24. World Summit on Sustainable Development, 26 August – 2 September 2002, Johannesburg, South Africa – The CITYNET delegate made a presentation on the plenary session of the Local Government Session and made statements on the side events

25. World Habitat Day, 7 October 2000, Brussels Belgium – the Secretary General received the UN-HABITAT Scroll of Honour on behalf of CITY NET members

V. Conduct of Joint Programmes Activities with the United Nations Agencies

The following joint programmes and activities were undertaken:

1. UNCRD 27th International Training Course for Urban Development Planning, 6 May 1999, Nagoya, Japan- The Programme Manager was a panelist at the meeting on the role of International financial institutions in promoting regional development planning

2. Workshop on Feeding Asian Cities and Japan's Role, 2 December 2000, Yokohama, Japan/CITYNET, FAO Japan Liaison Office

3. UNCRD 28th International Training Course in Regional Development, 11 May-19 June 2000, Nagoya, Japan

4. Regional Seminar on Transport and Communication Challenges for Urban Local Government in the 21st Century, 8-10 November 2000, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia/ESCAP and Kuala Lumpur

5. Localizing Environment of Action: Bringing Together Local Governments and Urban Stakeholders in the Asia Pacific Region, 2-21 February 2001, Tokyo, Japan/ CITYNET, Global Environment Information Centre (GEIC), UNU and Asia-Pacific Cultural Centre for UNESCO (ACCU)

6. Asia Pacific Summit of Women Mayors and Councilors, 19-22 June 2001, Phitsanulok, Thailand/ UNESCAP, UNCHS, ADB, TUGI, UNIFEM, CITYNET and LOGOTRI

7. Regional Consultation on Good Urban Governance and Response to HIV/AIDS, 27-29 August 2001, Kuala Lumpur Malaysia/ CITY NET, APCASO, UNDP TUGI and UNDP HIV

8. CITYNET Bangkok Congress 2001, 29 October- 2 November 2001, Bangkok, Thailand/ CITYNET, UNESCAP, BMA, Asia Urbs Programme, ADB, UNCHS, UNDP TUGI, World Bank, UNICEF and CODI/ACHR

9. Asia- Pacific Regional Forums on Sustainable Urbanization in Preparation for the World Summit on Sustainable Development 2002, 14 June 2002, Shanghai, China/UNITAR, UN-HABITAT, WACLAC, UTO, CITYNET, Global Ecovillage-Network and Vivendi Environment

10. Regional Workshop on Urban Tourism and Poverty Reduction, 20-22 November 2000, Colombo/CITYNET and ESCAP

11. The Fourth Asian Mayors Forum and Regional Workshop on Good Urban Governance for Poverty Reduction and Social Development: Exchange of Tools, Techniques and Good Practices, 9-11 July 2002, Bangkok, Thailand/ADB, ADBI, AIT, CITYNET, ESCAP, Sustainable Cities Programme (Asia), UNDP TUGI, UN-HABITAT, UMP and UPF

12. Internet based Training Course on Integrating Environmental Considerations in Economic Decision Making 3-22 June 2002/CITYNET, ESCAP, LOGOTRI, AIT, and Cardiff University

13. Public/Private Sector Partnership (PPP's) for Urban Infrastructure and Service Delivery, 2-4 April 2002, Suwon, Korea/CITYNET, ESCAP and LOGOTRI

14. 19th EAROPH World Planning Congress: Innovative Technologies Towards Good Urban Governance, 7-10 October 2003 Kuala Lumpur / UNDP TUGI, EAROPH, Kuala Lumpur, CITYNET and UN-HABITAT

VI. Publications

Through funding from the United Nations Agencies, CITYNET produced two publications in 1999 and has worked on publication on and compilation of the Best Practices Municipal Financial Management in Asia. CITYNET continued publishing newsletter, City Voice and CITYNET Club in Japanese language. The list of reports and proceedings during the period 1999-2002 is as follows:

1. Annual Report of CITYNET for the years 1999, 2000, and 2001 (Annual Report for the year 2002 shall be adopted at the 18th Session by CITYNET's Executive Committee which will be held in October 2003)

2. "City Voice – 9 years Progress Coming Across Loud and Clear," CityVoice Volume 11, no.24 and Volume 11, no. 25

3. "Financial Management of Local Governments in Asia," December 1999

9. Rural Women Environmental Protection Association*

(Special consultative status granted in 1999)

INTRODUCTION:

Rural Women Environmental Protection Association (RWEPA) has as aims: to work for a sustainable environment sustainable development, and sustainable livelihoods. These aims are realized through educating the rural populace on prominent issues such as Human Rights, Fundamental Rights and Freedoms of indigenous peoples, Education of the girl child, women Emancipation, Environmental Protection and Conservation of Biological Diversity.

The membership of RWEPA has increased from National to international. RWEPA has Sub Groups in Nigeria and in the United States of America (Moghamo Elites Development Association (MEDA - USA) which has been very active for the past two years i.e. 2001 to present.

Funding sources are more from RWEPA Sub-Groups and the United Nations Agencies like OHCHR and ILO, UNCCD and UN Secretariat. In November 1999, RWEPA organized a 4 day National Workshop on sustainable farming methods in Efah village in Batibo Sub Division in North West Province of Cameroon. In 2000, RWEPA organized three sensitization and educating workshops in the Northern province of Cameroon, Center and North West Provinces in the January 2000 in the North, April 2000 in Center and September 2000 in the North West. These workshops were for the introduction and subsequent implementation of the Millennium Summit Declarations in the domains of health, education and fundamental rights and freedoms of indigenous peoples. The General coordinator of RWEPA attended a conference organized by IUCN Geneva in Mont Febe Yaounde in November 1999 to negotiate for the government of Cameroon to ratify the Ramsar convention on wetlands and map out international wetlands.

From January 29-February 2 2001 the General coordinator of RWEPA accompanied by Mudum Youth Group President and Foya Women's group secretary attended the 2nd preparatory meeting for the world summit for children in New York (UNICEF).

In July 24-28 2001 the Head of the Gender Unit of RWEPA attended the 40th commission for the advancement of women in New York.

In September 6-11 2001, the General coordinator of RWEPA attended an International Conference on Children's Environmental Health in Georgetown University Conference Center organized by Canadian Institute for Children's Health

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and the World Bank. RWEPA presented a paper on "The impact of the environment on the learning abilities of Children; Cameroon context. In July 2001, the General Coordinator, Secretary General, and Treasurer organizes a nationwide tour to sensitize the children and youths on the goals of the world summit for children. In May 2001, the Head of the Legal Unit of RWEPA attended the 11th session of the ADHOC committee on the Elaboration of a convention against Transactional organized crime in Vienna, Austria by UN Center for International Crime Prevention.

From February 22-27 2002, The General Coordinator of RWEPA was sponsored to attend the African Sub-Regional Meeting on Cultural and Traditional Rights of people of African descendants in Gaborone, Botswana organized by the Indigenous Project Team of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights in Geneva.

On June 7-13 2002, the General Coordinator of RWEPA was sponsored to attend the Children Environmental Health II an International Conference in Marriot Wadman Hotel in Washington DC. A postal presentation was made on the effects of the learning environment on children.

From the 8-21 March 2001, the General Coordinator RWEPA attended the UN Meeting on the Commission on the Status of Women in New York.

From the 8-11 September 2002, the General Coordinator of RWEPA attended and presented a workshop on the Environment and Crisis Resolution: Case of Cameroon during the 55th DPI NGO Annual Conference Organized by the Department of Public Information of UN Secretariat. From the 3rd –14th March 2003 the General Coordinator of RWEPA participated at the 47th session of the Commission of the Status of Women in New York. From May 12th - 23rd 2002, the Head of the HIV/AIDS unit of RWEPA attended the First Ever-Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues in New York. In October 2002, the Head of Indigenous Issues Unit of RWEPA attended an International Central African Meeting on Cultural Diversity organized by the Indigenous/Tribal Project Team of the office of the Commissioner for Human Rights Geneva, in Mekas Cameroon organized and sponsored by ILO, and UNESCO. This project takes care of marginalized groups such as the pygmies and the Mbororos in the zone.

The general coordinator of RWEPA proofreads publication of WIPO and the Environment section of European Union.

The General Coordinator of RWEPA was sponsored by ILO to attend the preparatory steering committee meeting of 7th to 9th April for the Central African Sub-Regional Meeting of Indigenous Tribal peoples scheduled to take place in Yaounde from the 10th to the 14th of November 2003. The Coordinator of RWEPA was elected the Rapporteur of the meeting.

In November 2002, RWEPA was granted funds by Perez Guerrero Trust Fund (PGTF) through UNDP and UNCCD secretariat in Bonn to carryout pilot projects in Cameroon on Alternative Energy Sources which constitutes the implementation phase of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification and Mitigate the Effects of Droughts in Cameroon.